

# Removal, preservation and reimplantation of ovarian tissue for restoring fertility after gonadotoxic treatment

Information for the public

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This procedure can be used to restore fertility after gonadotoxic treatment because it works well and there are no serious concerns about its safety.

Some treatments for cancer or other medical conditions can damage the ovaries (gonadotoxic treatment). This can lead to early menopause and infertility.

In this procedure, ovarian tissue is surgically removed before gonadotoxic treatment begins. The tissue is removed through a small cut in the abdomen. Usually, at least half of one ovary is removed and the other ovary is left in place to act as a site for future reimplantation. A small sample of the removed tissue is then examined to make sure there is no cancer. The rest is frozen to be reimplanted after the gonadotoxic treatment is finished.

You can [search the NHS website for information about consultants and hospitals](#) that offer this procedure.

## Is this procedure right for me?

You should be included in [making decisions about your care](#).

Your healthcare professionals should explain the risks and benefits of this procedure and how it is done. They should discuss your options and listen carefully to your views and concerns. They should offer you more information about the procedure. Your family or carers can be involved if you want or need them to be.

You will be asked to decide whether you agree (consent) to have the procedure. Find out more about [giving consent to treatment on the NHS website](#).

## Some questions to think about

- How many appointments will I need?
- What are the possible benefits? How likely am I to get them?
- What are the risks or side effects? How likely are they?
- Will I have to stay in hospital?
- What happens if it does not work or something goes wrong?
- What happens if I do not want the procedure?
- Are other treatments available?

## Information and support

- [NICE's information on interventional procedures guidance](#) explains what an interventional procedure is and how we assess it.
- [NICE's information on interventional procedures](#) recommendations explains what standard arrangements are.

You can also get support from your local [Healthwatch](#).

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